

BASIS FOR THE AMENDMENT

The abstract has been amended. A copy of the new abstract has been provided on a separate sheet, attached herewith.

Claims 1-6 have been canceled. Claim 7 has been amended as supported by Claim 1 as originally filed. "Wood material" is supported, for example, at page 3, line 10 of the specification.

New Claims 9-21 have been added.

New Claims 9 and 17 are supported by Claim 1 as originally filed.

New Claims 10 and 18 are supported by Claim 1 as originally filed.

New Claims 11 and 19 are supported by Claim 1 as originally filed and at page 2, line 25.

New Claims 12 and 20 are supported at page 3, lines 14 and 15.

New Claim 13 is supported at page 3, lines 15-16.

New Claim 14 is supported at page 3, lines 15-16.

New Claim 15 is supported at page 3, lines 39-40.

New Claim 16 is supported at page 3, line 44 to page 4, line 4.

New Claim 21 is supported by Claim 2 as originally filed.

No new matter is believed to have been added by entry of this amendment. Entry and favorable reconsideration are respectfully requested.

Upon entry of this amendment Claims 7-21 will now be active in this application.

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application, as amended, in view of the following remarks.

The present invention as set forth in **amended Claim 7** relates to a **film hinge**, comprising:

(i) a material comprising wood, wood materials, wood substitute materials or combinations thereof, and

(ii) a thermoplastic polyurethane,

wherein the thermoplastic polyurethane (ii) is obtained by reacting

(a) hexamethylene diisocyanate with

(b) compounds reactive toward isocyanates and having a molecular weight of from 500 to 8 000 g/mol, and

(c) chain extenders having a molecular weight of from 60 to 499 g/mol, and optionally as chain terminators, monofunctional compounds reactive toward isocyanates,

(d) catalysts and/or

(e) conventional assistants.

Claim 7 has been amended to include the limitations of Claim 1. Claim 8 depends on amended Claim 7. Since Claim 1 was not rejected as anticipated by Gugumus or Prissok et al, amended Claim 7 should not be rejected over these references as anticipated.

Regarding the combination of Gugumus and Prissok et al Applicants note the following. Gugumus and Prissok et al fail to disclose or suggest a film hinge as claimed.

Gugumus disclose stabilizer mixtures containing two different sterically hindered amine compounds. See the abstract. The stabilizer is useful for stabilizing organic materials against degradation induced by light, heat or oxidation (col. 46, lines 29-32). As such a

person of ordinary skill in the art looking to develop film hinges would not have consulted Gugumus as it relates to a different field of endeavor.

Thermoplastic polyurethanes are mentioned as example for organic compounds (col. 48, lines 44-45 and 49-52). However, cols. 46-50 disclose a large number of classes of organic materials and there is no disclosure that the polyurethane should be used which is prepared by reacting (a) hexamethylene diisocyanate with (b) compounds reactive toward isocyanates and having a molecular weight of from 500 to 8 000 g/mol, and (c) chain extenders having a molecular weight of from 60 to 499 g/mol, and optionally as chain terminators, monofunctional compounds reactive toward isocyanates, (d) catalysts and/or (e) conventional assistants, as claimed in Claim 7.

Further, there is a general disclosure in Gugumus of different uses of the stabilized plastics. See cols. 52-54. The plastics may be used for the preparation of hinges (col. 52, lines 44-45 and 61), but there is no disclosure of the **film hinges** as claimed in which a specific polyurethane is combined with a material comprising wood, wood materials, wood substitute materials or combinations thereof.

Prissok et al disclose a polyurethane that is an adhesion promoter between a plastic film and a layer of support material (col. 1, lines 35-44). However, the claimed film hinge having the specific polyurethane and material (i) are not disclosed or suggested. Thus, even a combination of Gugumus and Prissok et al does not result in the present invention.

Therefore, the rejection of Claim 7 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Gugumus and the rejection of Claims 1-6 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Gugumus in view of Prissok et al are believed to be unsustainable as the present invention is neither anticipated nor obvious and withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested.

The objection to the abstract is obviated by the new abstract. A copy of the new abstract has been provided on a separate sheet, attached herewith.

Application No. 10/510,231

Reply to Office Action of September 28, 2005

This application presents allowable subject matter, and the Examiner is kindly requested to pass it to issue. Should the Examiner have any questions regarding the claims or otherwise wish to discuss this case, he is kindly invited to contact Applicants' below-signed representative, who would be happy to provide any assistance deemed necessary in speeding this application to allowance.

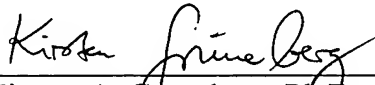
Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.
Norman F. Oblon

Customer Number

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 06/04)



Kirsten A. Grüneberg, Ph.D.
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 47,297